

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that Claims 1, 6-11, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC 103 over the German reference DE '552 in view of the U.S. reference U.S. '856.

Claims 1, 6-11, 13-15 and 17 are rejected over the German reference DE '552 in view of the U.S. reference U.S. '616.

At the same time the Examiner indicated that Claims 12, 18 and 19 are allowed and Claim 4 is allowable.

In connection with the Examiner's rejection of the claims over the art, applicants cancelled Claims 1 and 13-17.

The Examiner's indication of the allowance and allowability of some claims has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with this indication, Claims 12, 18 and 19 have been retained substantially as they were, with some minor changes. Claims 4 and 11

have been cancelled, and replaced with a new Claim 20 which combines the features of the above-mentioned claims. Therefore, Claim 20 should be considered as being in allowable condition.

Claims 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been amended to depend on Claim 20. Since they share the allowable features of Claim 20, they should be considered as being in allowable condition as well.

In connection with the Examiner's objection to the drawings, it is respectfully submitted that hand power tools are well known in the art, for example as disclosed in German patent document DE '552, and it is believed that it is not necessary to show them in the drawings. However, to be responsive, applicants amended the claims to define a gear mechanism for a hand power tool as in the original claims, and therefore it is believed that it is no longer necessary to illustrate the hand power tool in the drawings. In view of this, it is believed that the Examiner's grounds for the objection to the previously claims should be considered as no longer tenable and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Striker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Striker
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